

The Minneapolis-St. Paul area has long been noted for its high quality of life. Fortune magazine annually ranks the Twin Cities among the top four places in the nation to balance business and family.

The metropolitan area has a population of approximately two million people and offers a full range of cultural activities, including theaters, museums, fine restaurants, colleges, universities, and numerous professional sports teams.

Whatever your interests, from fine dining and world-class theatre to four season outdoor activities or peaceful wilderness retreats, there is something here for everyone.



VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION AND MINNEAPOLIS VA MEDICAL CENTER

The Veterans Health Administration is a comprehensive healthcare system for the nation's veterans and the largest managed care system in the United States. VHA researchers are eligible to compete for intramural research program funding to address VA health care priorities. The Minneapolis VA Medical Center is a large teaching hospital with 237 acute care diagnostic and treatment beds, as well as a 104 bed extended care unit. The medical center provides primary, specialty, mental and behavioral health, extended care, and rehabilitative care to over 45,000 veteran patients. It has one of the largest education and training programs in the VA system and is affiliated with the University of Minnesota Schools of Medicine and Dentistry. Annually, approximately 1,000 students, residents and 1,500 other trainees are involved in education and training programs at the facility.



TO APPLY

Send or e-mail a cover letter stating interests and goals for the fellowship, curriculum vita, two letters of recommendation, and a writing sample to:

Melissa Partin, PhD
Director, Associated Health Postdoctoral
Fellowship Program
Minneapolis VA Medical Center (152/2E)
One Veterans Drive
Minneapolis, MN 55417
phone – 612.725.1979
e-mail – vhaminpostdoc@med.va.gov
web – www.hsrp.minneapolis.med.va.gov

Department of Veterans Affairs



VA ASSOCIATED HEALTH POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM



A VA Health Services Research Center of Excellence

PURPOSE & PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Center for Chronic Disease Outcomes Research (CCDOR) at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center offers a post-doctoral fellowship for PhD researchers who are interested in specialized advanced training in health services research. The fellowship is for one year, but twelve-month renewals are possible and encouraged.

Fellows can expect to have an intensive, well-supported experience while working with VA and University of Minnesota affiliated faculty. The fellowship is designed to help researchers who have a diverse set of skills to integrate their background with health services research content and methods in order to meet their career goals and program objectives.

Under the guidance of mentors and the fellowship program director, each fellow will develop a tailored, individualized program intended to advance their skills and special strengths. Fellows also receive an annual \$7000 stipend to develop their research program. Programs are organized around six major activities:

1. Training in health services research methods.
2. A mentored research experience through ongoing research projects.
3. Participation in CCDOR-sponsored seminars.
4. Development of independent research proposals.
5. Training in effective grant writing.
6. Preparation of articles for submission to peer-reviewed journals. Participation in national conferences is strongly encouraged and funding is available.

ABOUT CCDOR

CCDOR is an interdisciplinary community of professionals conducting methodologically rigorous research intended primarily to improve the health care of veterans. The Center was founded in 1998 and currently employs 21 core PhD and MD investigators and 40 research and administrative support staff. It supports over 70 externally funded projects and an annual budget of over \$12 million. Funding sources include the VA, NIH, foundations and corporations. Infrastructure funding is provided by the VA HSR&D Service through a grant that is competitively reviewed every five years.

Research in the Center spans the spectrum from developing the evidence base for clinical practice to determining how best to translate that evidence into practice. Our primary area of research inquiry is understanding and improving provider, patient, and system level factors and interactions to enhance the quality of and access to care. Our major focus areas are:

Population:

- Stigmatized and disadvantaged populations

Diseases:

- Cancer (colon, prostate)
- Mental Health (tobacco and other substance abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder)
- Cardiovascular (abdominal aortic aneurysm, ischemic heart disease)
- Vaccine-preventable disease
- Osteoporosis
- Skin Disease

Methodology:

- Intervention development and testing
- Multicenter clinical trials
- Evidence synthesis
- Surveys

CCDOR and its investigators are affiliated with the University of Minnesota Medical School, School of Public Health, and Comprehensive Cancer Center.

More information about CCDOR faculty and activities can be found at:

www.hsrp.minneapolis.med.va.gov

or

E-mail: vhaminpostdoc@med.va.gov

ELIGIBILITY AND BENEFITS

Qualified candidates must hold a doctoral degree, preferably in public health, allied health, the social sciences, or a closely-related field. Candidates must be U.S. citizens.

Start dates for fellowships are flexible but late summer or fall is preferred. The application deadline is June 1. After applications are reviewed, the top candidates will be interviewed by telephone, and when possible, in person. Offers for fellowship positions will be made in mid-summer.

The fellowship includes a competitive stipend (in 2005, \$40,000 for first-year; \$43,000 for second-year fellows), most federal benefits, and a \$7000 annual research stipend.